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ANTHROPOLOGIC MISCELLANEA

First National Conference on Race Betterment.—Four hundred men and women of prominence, comprising the first representative group of scientific experts ever gathered in America for that purpose, met in Battle Creek, Michigan, January 8–12, to assemble evidence of race deterioration and to consider methods of checking the downward trend of mankind. The meeting was known as the First National Conference on Race Betterment. Already the effect of the Conference is apparent in Battle Creek, where popular interest in mental and physical efficiency was awakened by a series of public school tests which showed an alarming percentage of defective children in all grades. The Conference had its inception in the efforts of four men, particularly interested in race betterment—Reverend Newell Dwight Hillis, pastor of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn; Dr J. H. Kellogg, of the Battle Creek Sanitorium; Sir Horace Plunkett, former minister of agriculture for Ireland, and Professor Irving Fisher of Yale University. At the invitation of a central committee chosen largely by these men, fifty men and women of national prominence in the fields of science and education shared in the program. Their addresses, together with open discussion of many of the points considered, constituted a widespread study of all phases of evident race degeneracy and the advocacy of many ideas of reform. Some of the suggested methods of improvement are frequent medical examination of the well, outdoor life, temperance in diet, biologic habits of living, open-air schools and playgrounds, the encouragement of rural life, the segregation or sterilization of defectives, the encouragement of eugenic marriages by requiring medical certificates before granting license, and the establishing of a eugenics registry for the development of a race of human thoroughbreds. Among those having a share in the program were: Rev. Newell Dwight Hillis, Jacob Riis, Judge Ben B. Lindsey, Booker T. Washington, Dr Victor C. Vaughan, Dr S. Adolphus Knopf, Dr C. B. Davenport, Dr J. N. Hurty, the Very Reverend (Dean) Walter Taylor Sumner, and many others of equal prominence.

Peabody Museum Building.—On May 28, 1913, the sod was turned for the foundations of the last section of the Peabody Museum of American Archæology and Ethnology of Harvard University that will join it to

the University Museum. An address by Professor F. W. Putnam, who assisted in breaking ground for the first section 54 years ago, was read, in his absence through illness, by Dr Charles Peabody. A considerable company listened to the reading which took place in the Peabody Museum, and proceeded afterward to the southwest corner of the open space between the Peabody section and the Geological section of the University Museum. Here President Lowell with a spade cut out a sod, which was lifted and placed on a wheelbarrow by Mrs H. L. Higginson, a daughter of Professor Louis Agassiz. After that, Messrs George and Max Agassiz, with Dr Charles Peabody, Mr C. C. Willoughby, and other officers of the different sections of the Museum, lifted sods and placed them in the wheelbarrow, Professor Putnam being represented by his son Eben and his daughter Alice, thus following out the plans made by Professor Louis Agassiz for the cutting of the first sod of the Museum building. A small column of earth adjoining the spot where the sod was cut was left standing in the excavation so that Professor Putnam might actually take part in the removal of the last sod. On June 21 Professor Putnam, Mrs Putnam and Miss Putnam, Mr Samuel Henshaw, Director of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Dr Peabody and his son Alfred, with Mr Willoughby and Mr Guernsey, officers of the Peabody Museum, took up this sod and removed the column of earth from the excavation. Professor Putnam's address is printed in full in *The Harvard Graduates Magazine* for September, 1913.

Rev. Joseph Alexander Gilfillan died in New York City on November 18, 1913, after a year's illness. Mr Gilfillan was born near Londonderry, Ireland, in October, 1838, and was of Scotch-Irish descent. He was educated in Londonderry, spent two years in the University of Edinburgh, and when nineteen years of age came to the United States and settled in the then Territory of Minnesota. He was engaged in business with his uncle at Faribault, then studied three years for the ministry in the Theological Seminary of New York, and after traveling for a year went to Duluth, where he was ordained as an Episcopal clergyman in 1870. He remained in Duluth for two years, spent a year in Brainerd, Minnesota (at both of which places he had a church), and in 1873 was sent as missionary to the Chippewa Indians at White Earth, Minnesota, where he remained until failing health compelled his retirement, twenty-five years later, after which time he resided chiefly in Washington, D. C. Mr Gilfillan had the superintendence of all the missionary work of the Episcopal church in Minnesota, his circuit covering an area of nearly

300 miles in the northern, sparsely settled part of the state. It may be said that his assignments were always in the most difficult and inhospitable places, whether among the Indians or in the lumber camps. He acquired an excellent speaking knowledge of the Chippewa language, and endeared himself to the Indians by his gentle and kindly manner. He wrote many articles on Chippewa subjects, including "Minnesota Geographical Names Derived from the Chippewa Language" (*Fifteenth Report of the Minnesota Geological and Natural History Survey*, 1887), and was the author of "The Ojibway, a Novel of Indian Life of the Period of the Early Advance of Civilization in the Great Northwest" (New York and Washington, 1904).

MR ALANSON SKINNER has returned from a four months' collecting trip among the Indians of Manitoba and Wisconsin for the American Museum of Natural History. While in Manitoba he made a detailed study of the so-called Plains Ojibwa, a group regarding themselves as independent of the Ojibwa proper, and designating themselves as "Bungi." Part of the Bungi reside on Turtle Mountain reserve in North Dakota. The chief point of interest resulting from Mr Skinner's observations is that these Ojibwa present very clearly traits of culture pertaining both to the Central Algonquian tribes of the eastern woodlands and to the Plains Indians of the buffalo country to the west. The study of these transitional or mixed cultures is of importance just now, because of the discussions between geographers and anthropologists as to the relation between geographical environment and culture. Also, such studies bear directly on the theoretical problem as to whether a people gets its culture chiefly by borrowing it from others or by inventing it independently under the stimulus of similar conditions of life.—*American Museum Journal*.

AMONG the lectures delivered in the course of the University Museum, Philadelphia, commencing November 1, three were by Professor Boas, on American Race Problems, the Indian, the African, and the Immigrant being successively discussed on November 8 and 22, and December 6. On November 15 Mr Frederick I. Monsen spoke of Mexico and Her People, and on the 29th Mr Fay Cooper Cole addressed the Museum on The Pygmies: the Social and Home Life of the most Primitive of Living Races. On January 3 Mr Monsen will lecture on The Indians of the Painted Desert: on the 10th Mr Cole will speak of Mindanao, the Land of Human Sacrifice; on the 24th Mr Charles Wellington Furlong will deliver an address on The Wild River Lands of the Guianas and Their Peoples, and on January 31 Professor Hiram Bingham will speak of The

Land of the Incas, presenting some of the results of his archeological researches in Peru.

REV. GILBERT L. WILSON, of Minneapolis, a volunteer field-worker in anthropology for the American Museum of Natural History, has just completed two months' study of the zoöculture of the Hidatsa-Mandan Indians in North Dakota. The term "zoöculture" is often used to designate all the relations between man and animals, especially such as are to any degree domesticated. Mr Wilson reports the work unusually successful. His notes show that these people had worked out a detailed and definite body of knowledge for the breeding, training, and use of dogs as traction animals. Later when horses were introduced among them, they worked out another system for that animal. The results of this study will be published by the Museum.

IN the alcove of the North American archeology hall of the American Museum of Natural History a mural series of unusual interest has recently been completed. It consists of five polychrome frescoes, three of which are enlarged copies of the frescoes on the walls of the cavern of Font-de-Gaume in France and two are enlarged copies from the ceiling of Altamira in Spain. The originals of these are handed down to us from the Old Stone Age and represent paleolithic art at its highest point of perfection. The date of these cavern paintings is problematical, but it is safe to say that they were painted at least twenty-five thousand years ago. The copies in the Museum were made by Mr Albert Operti.

AMONG the recent accessions of American objects by the University Museum, Philadelphia, are the following: Twelve ancient stone implements dug up on Calf island in Frenchman's bay on the Maine coast, collected by Professor Warren K. Moorehead and presented by Mr Edward Morrell; five painted buffalo robes and two deerskin pouches with porcupine-quill embroidery; a drum collected at Santa Clara, California, presented by Mr W. H. Mechling; a collection of Inca pottery, gold and silver images, and bronze implements, brought from Peru in the early part of the nineteenth century and presented by Mrs Randolph Clay of London.

ON January 6 Associate Professor Frederick Starr, of the department of sociology and anthropology in the University of Chicago, begins a course of five illustrated lectures on the general subject of "Japan: The Land of the Rising Sun" at the Abraham Lincoln Center of the University Lecture Association in Chicago. The subjects of the individual lectures

are as follows: "The Life of the Japanese," "Japanese Religion," "The Hairy Ainu of Japan," "Korea: The Land of the Morning Calm," and "Far Eastern Questions."

THE department of anthropology of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, has recently purchased from Mr G. A. Paul, of Oldtown, Maine, a collection from the Micmac Indians. The Museum has hitherto possessed very few specimens from this tribe, and such specimens are rare in most institutions. The collection includes some old specimens of beadwork and various utensils showing carving similar to the characteristic work of the northeastern New England tribes.

THE death is announced of Dr A. F. Le Double, professor of anatomy at the École de Médecine in Tours, France. Professor Le Double was an indefatigable worker and published a number of works of special value to anatomy and anthropology on the variations of the muscular system and on the bones of the skull, face, and spine. Death overtook him in his sixty-sixth year and in the midst of preparation for further work on the variations of the human system.

THE CHARLES S. MASON archeological collection from the vicinity of Jonesboro, Tennessee, presented to the American Museum of Natural History by the late J. Pierpont Morgan, contains several remarkable engraved shell gorgets and a number of unusual stone implements among which are two large exceptional celts. The entire collection came from one locality and thus constitutes an important addition to the Museum's series for the Eastern states.

SIR ARTHUR EVANS has presented to the museum at Cambridge, England, the last instalment of an interesting set of objects selected from the collections of his father, the late Sir John Evans. The gift consists of 121 specimens ranging in date from prehistoric times to the eighteenth century. The value of the collection is greatly enhanced by the fact that all the specimens composing it were found in Cambridgeshire and the adjacent counties.

THE Department of Archeology of the Missouri Historical Society at St Louis has issued its first bulletin, devoted to *Prehistoric Objects Classified and Described*, by Gerard Fowke, the object of the paper being "to present as briefly as possible some information about Missouri's primitive inhabitants." The publication consists of 32 pages, including the index, and is illustrated with a number of plates. The price is twenty-five cents.

DR ALBERT ERNEST JENKS, Professor of Anthropology in the University of Minnesota will take sabbatical leave of absence from the university the second semester of the present year. He will spend February and March, 1914, in the southern part of the United States, and the next six months in northern Africa and in Europe. He will observe certain aspects of ethnic amalgamation, and influence of environment on groups of men.

At the recent annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association held in New York City, Professor Roland B. Dixon of Harvard University was re-elected President, and Professors Franz Boas of Columbia University and George Grant MacCurdy of Yale University were designated to represent the Association at the International Congress of Americanists to be held in Washington, D. C., October 5 to 10, 1914.

NEWS has been received from Dr William C. Farabee, who is now in Brazil directing the University of Pennsylvania Expedition in the Amazon region. The expedition had passed through the territory inhabited by the Macusi Indians, and was starting, with forty porters, through the Wai Wai country into unexplored parts of French and Dutch Guiana.

At the Dropsie College for Hebrew and Cognate Learning, Philadelphia, Dr Ignaz Zollschan, of Vienna, will deliver three lectures on January 14, 15, and 19 on "The Cultural Value of the Jewish Race," "The Significance of the Mixed Marriage," and "Tendencies of Economic Development Among the Jewish People."

MR CHRISTOPHER WREN, of Plymouth, Pa., curator of archeology of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society at Wilkes-Barré, announces the approaching publication of a work on *North Appalachian Indian Pottery*, comprising about 100 pages of descriptive matter and numerous illustrations.

At the meeting of the general committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Atlanta, Georgia, commencing December 29th, Dr Clark Wissler, of the American Museum of Natural History, was elected Vice-president for Section H (Anthropology) to serve during 1914.

MR J. P. HARRINGTON announces that his recent extensive study of the languages of the Yuman and Chumashan stocks of California leads him to believe that these two stocks are genetically related, and that the relationship is traceable even in some of the more minute features of the structure.

WE regret to record the death, on April 4th last, of Lamberto Loria, who had recently organized the Musei di Antropologia e di Etnologia of Rome and Florence, and, on June 5th, at Torino, of Antonio Marro, a former assistant of Lombroso.

At a meeting of the American Ethnological Society held at the American Museum of Natural History, November 26, Dr A. A. Goldenweiser read a paper on "Individual Names among the Confederated Iroquois."

THE annual Huxley Memorial Lecture of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland was delivered on November 14 by Professor W. J. Sollas, F.R.S., who took as his subject "Paviland Cave."

DR ALEŠ HRDLIČKA, of the U. S. National Museum, has been named a titular member of the Société Impériale des Amis d'Histoire Naturelle, d'Anthropologie et d'Ethnographie, Moscow, Russia.

DR LIVINGSTON FARRAND, Professor of Anthropology in Columbia University, has been elected President of the University of Colorado.

MR W. J. WINTEMBERG has been appointed preparator in archeology in the Geological Survey of Canada.